1.1 THE RUMPELTON CULT

A field guide for concerned citizens, art historians, and anyone who has accidentally clicked r/Rumpelton_Institute.

1.1.1 Core Belief

The Rumpelton Cult believes that Ralph Rumpelton's MS Paint works are not merely art, but evidence of a cosmic misalignment — a crack in the visual order of the universe. Where others see "a guy with a long head and tiny pilgrim body," they see prophetic distortion.

They call this distortion The Bend.

1.1.2 Founding Myth

According to cult lore, Rumpelton did not "begin drawing" one afternoon. He received the ability after:

•staring too long at a malfunctioning Epson printer

•witnessing a "holy glitch"

•and hearing a voice whisper: "Proportion is a prison."

This moment is commemorated annually as The Great Misclick.

1.1.3 Sacred Texts

The cult maintains three primary scriptures:

•The Book of Compression — explains why heads should be long and bodies should be small

•The Scroll of Unnecessary Lines — a treatise on adding details that do not help

•The Manifesto of Mild Indifference — Rumpelton's famous philosophy: "I'm just drawing stuff."

Rituals

Members gather in small rooms lit only by the glow of outdated monitors. Rituals include:

•The Opening of MS Paint — performed with solemnity

•The Sacred Undo — used to erase doubt

•The Pilgrim Stretch — a meditative exercise where followers elongate their own faces in selfies

Advanced members practice Deep Warping, a trance state achieved by zooming in to 800% and contemplating pixel clusters.

1.1.4 Hierarchy

The cult is structured around artistic dysfunction:

•The High Distorter — interprets new Rumpelton works

•The Council of Skew — debates whether a crooked line is intentional

•The Order of the Unblended Colors — novices who have not yet mastered shading avoidance

Symbols

The cult's primary sigil is The Long Head, often drawn poorly and inconsistently, which is considered a sign of devotion.

Another symbol is The Tiny Pilgrim Body, representing humility, fragility, and the inability to draw torsos.

1.1.5 Controversies

The Rumpelton Cult has been accused of:

•spreading “anti-anatomy propaganda”

•encouraging “reckless proportioning”

•recruiting new members through cryptic Reddit posts like: “Have you seen The Bend today?”

They deny all allegations, usually with the phrase: “We’re just looking at weird stuff.”

1.1.6 Public Perception

Art critics are divided:

•Some call the cult a threat to classical portraiture

•Others call it a refreshing rejection of visual tyranny

•Most simply say: “Why is this everywhere.”